THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. Though there is no bird-flu outbreak in Andhra Pradesh, the bird-flu outbreak in West Bengal has affected the egg movement from Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Andhra Pradesh sends 110 lakh eggs every day to Kolkata market. Due to bird-flu outbreak in West Bengal these eggs could not be sent. Purchase and sale have been adversely affected.

(c) Does not arise, as there is no bird-flu outbreak reported in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) As per information received from Government of Andhra Pradesh, the estimated losses due to restricted market of eggs from Andhra Pradesh to other States is around Rs. 7.00 crores per day.

The poultry industry has put the loss due to the current episode of Avian Influenza in West Bengal at Rs. 1500 crore over a period of two months. As per calculation done by this Department, the loss of poultry industry is assessed to range from Rs. 904 crores to Rs. 1266 crores in different scenarios of price decline over a period of two months.

(e) In order to provide economic relief to the poultry farmers/industry adversely affected due to occurrence of Avian Influenza, the Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to all scheduled commercial banks on 19th February 2008 for moratorium upto one year on the repayment of working capital loans, interest due and term loans outstanding as on 31st December, 2007, conversion of working capital loans and interest due into term loans and provision of need-based fresh finance.

Development of Agriculture in Maoist influenced areas

1573. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) in order to contain naxalite/maoist menance what special steps Government has taken for the development of agriculture in maoist influenced areas in the country;

(b) as most of the areas are having one rain-fed crop season, whether a second crop such as pulses, oil seeds, medicinal plants, vegetables or fodder crops can be developed in those areas; and

(c) if so, the steps Government has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing the production and productivity in the agriculture sector all over the country including the maoist influenced areas. However, no specific steps for Maoist influenced areas are envisaged.

(b) and (c) A Statement indicating the steps taken under the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation usual schemes for agricultural development in the Maoist influenced areas is enclosed.

Statement

The details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in the Maoist influenced Areas in the country

Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme: This scheme has been formulated with the objective to ensuring that the Central Assistance is spent on focused and specific interventions for development of agriculture in areas of priority of different States. It became operational in 2000-01 in all States and UTs. The Scheme provides sufficient flexibility to the States to develop and pursue the programmes on the basis of their regional priorities mainly connected with development of rice, wheat, sugarcane and coarse cereals through an appropriate mix of measures aimed at enhancement of soil health, supply of quality seeds and other inputs and promotion of agricultural mechanization. The Scheme also lays special emphasis on natural Resource Management through watershed development management approach.

Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC - Mini Mission-II): This Mission has been in operation since 2000-01. Its main objectives are to improve production, productivity, quality of cotton; to reduce cultivation costs in the country; and to raise the income of the farmers. It is being implemented in 13 States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The Mission envisages an end-to-end approach comprising varietal improvement; increased production/productivity; marketing infrastructure; and processing facilities.

Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM): In order to provide flexibility to the States in implementation based on regionally differentiated approach, to promote crop diversification and to provide focused approach to the programmes, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 1.4.2004 by merging the four erstwhile schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP); National Pulses Development Project (NPDP); Oilpalm Development (OPDP) and Accelerated maize Development Programme (AMDP).

National Horticulture Mission: The Mission was launched in 2005-06 in order ot give a new impetus/momentum to development of horticulture to generate employment and enhance farm incomes. The Mission aims at addressing problems related to generation of technology, production, post harvest management and processing and marketing under one umbrella in the horticulture sector.

Micro Irrigation: In dry land/rainfed areas it is necessary to increase water use efficiency for optimum utilization of available water, reduce the cost of production and to stabilize the production. In order to ensure optimum utilization of water resources a scheme called Micro Irrigation was approved for implementation in March, 2006. Its main objective is to increase the area under efficient methods of irrigation *viz* drip and sprinkler irrigation as these methods have been recognized as only alternative for efficient use of surface as well as ground water resources.

Agricultural Extension: For improving and strengthening agricultural extension services in the private sector, efficient use and easier availability of the inputs and utilization of

skilled and technical manpower in the agriculture sector, a scheme of Agri-clinics and Agri-Business Centres has been taken up. Besides, a scheme of Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension is being implemented to provide information to farmers on matters related to agriculture production. In order to help the farmers in tackling problems relating to pest attack, plant disease, use of inputs, a scheme, a scheme of 'Kissan Call Centres' is being implemented. A new centrally sponsored scheme entitled "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" was launched in March, 2005 with the objective to making extension system farmer driven and farmer accountable by way of promoting new institutional arrangements namely Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) for technology dissemination particularly at District level and below.

National Food Security Mission: Government of India, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has approved the launching of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)" to enhance the production of rice, wheat and pulses during the eleventh Five year Plan. The NFSM has three components *viz.* NFSM-Rice, NFSM-Wheat and NFSM-Pulses. The salient aspect of the Mission is that it has been conceptualized to target those districts which lower productivity than the State average productivity but have the potential to augment the productivity and production of the three crops, i.e. rice, wheat and pulses. The scheme is operational. The Plan outlay for National Food Security Mission is Rs. 4500 crore for the Eleventh Plan period.

The following districts of Naxalite affected States are covered under NFSM-rice (Khammam, Gaya, Rajnandgaon, Surguja, Gumla, Hazaribagh, West Singhbhum, Gudchiroli, Deogarh, Malkangiri and Sonebhadra); NFSM-wheat (Jamui, Rohtas, Balaghat and Sonebhadra) and NFSM-pulses (Khammam, Aurangabad, Rajnandgaon and Surguja).

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) under State Plan: Department has launched a new scheme "Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana" (RKVY) for its implementation during the 11th Five Year Plan with a Plan Outlay of Rs. 25,000 crore. The scheme envisages a quantifiable increase in agriculture and allied sector production, productivity and farm income and reduction in yield gaps. The scheme was approved by the CCEA on 16th August, 2007. The operational guidelines of the scheme have also been issued. The new scheme is providing flexibility and autonomy to states in the process of planning and executing Agriculture and allied sector schemes.

Centre to match state funds in New Farm Policy

1574. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether worried over stagnation in farming sector, the Prime Minister mooted a proposal seeking additional Central investment in an attempt to boost Public investment and encourage States to increase outlays on agricultural and allied activities;

(b) whether a proposal containing the road map of enhancing investment in this sector to allocate more funds, with the Centre pitching in by pumping in more money, has been drafted by his Ministry;

(c) to what extent Government has agreed for adopting this proposal; and